



THUNDERSTORMS

Be prepared for a thunderstorm, lightning or hail

Lightning is a leading cause of injury and death from weather-related hazards. Lightning strikes can cause fires, damage to buildings and infrastructure, and injury or death to humans and animals. In addition, lightning can also cause power outages, disrupt communication systems, and damage electronic equipment. Lightning incidents are a natural phenomenon that can pose a significant threat to life and property. It is important to take appropriate precautions and seek shelter during thunderstorms to reduce the risk of injury or damage from lightning strikes.

Thunderstorms are dangerous storms that:

- include lightning;
- include powerful winds of 80+ km per hour;
- create lightning and hail, and
- cause flash floods and tornadoes.

When thunder roars, go indoors.

Move from outdoors into a building or car.

Pay attention to alerts and warnings.

Unplug appliances.

Do not use landline phones.

Prepare NOW

Know your area's risk of thunderstorms. They can occur year-round and at any hour.

Identify sturdy buildings close to where you live, work, study and play.

Cut down or trim trees that may be in danger of falling on your home.

Consider buying surge protectors, lightning rods or a lightning protection system to protect your home, appliances and electronic devices.

Secure outside furniture.

When thunder roars, go indoors. A sturdy building is the safest place to be during a thunderstorm.

Pay attention to weather reports and warnings of thunderstorms. Be ready to change plans, if necessary, to be near shelter.

Survive DURING

When you receive a thunderstorm warning or hear thunder, go inside immediately. If indoors, avoid running water or using landline phones. Electricity can travel through plumbing and phone lines.

Protect your property. Unplug appliances and other electric devices and two-way radios.

If boating or swimming, get to land and find a sturdy, grounded shelter or vehicle immediately.

If necessary, take shelter in a car with a metal top and sides. Do not touch anything metal.

Avoid flooded roadways. Turn around, don't drown. Just 15 cm of fast-moving water can knock you down, and 30 cm of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

Do not hide under a tree or take a shower or a bath during a thunderstorm.

Be safe AFTER

Listen to authorities and weather forecasts for information on whether it is safe to go outside and for instructions regarding potential flash flooding.

Watch out for fallen power lines and trees. Report them immediately and get information about preparing for **thunderstorms, lightning** or **hail**.

